

# EQUITY IN MISSOURI

## HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT

OCTOBER 30, 2019 • HOLIDAY INN EXECUTIVE CENTER • 2200 I-70 DRIVE SW, COLUMBIA, MO 65203

8:00 A.M.

### REGISTRATION OPENS

8:15 A.M. - 9:15 A.M.

### BREAKFAST

Atrium

9:30 A.M. - 10:15 A.M.

### WELCOME, OPENING, & MISSOURI EQUITY REPORT

Windsor III & IV

**Angelette Prichett**, Director of Academic Affairs, [@AngelettePrich1](#)  
**Zora Mulligan**, Commissioner of Higher Education, [@zzmulligan](#)  
**Erik Anderson**, Director of Innovation and Performance, [@HigherEdErik](#)

10:15 A.M. - 11:15 A.M.

### OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Windsor III & IV

**Dr. Wil Del Pilar**, Vice President of Higher Education Policy and Practice, the Education Trust, [@Wil\\_EdTrust](#)

11:15 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

### CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

*Using Data to Drive Institutional Transformation to Improve Retention and Graduation for Underrepresented Students*  
Polo Room

### PANELISTS:

**Trent Ball**, Assistant Vice President for Academic Diversity and Outreach, Southeast Missouri State University; **Alan Byrd, Jr.**, Vice Provost of Enrollment Management, University of Missouri-St. Louis and Co-Chair of St. Louis Graduates

**Moderator: Allison Williams**, Senior Vice President-Programs, Wyman and Co-Chair of St. Louis Graduates

In *Degrees with Less Debt*, a study commissioned by St. Louis Graduates in 2017, publicly available data were used to identify five Missouri institutions that support underrepresented students to graduation with less debt. Subsequent interviews of administrators and students on those campuses revealed five cross-cutting themes that the institutions are engaged in that relate to their success. In this panel presentation, representatives from the five institutions, now collaborating as part of the Lumina Foundation-funded St. Louis Talent Hub, will describe how the *Degrees with Less Debt* report has served as a catalyst for expanding effective and innovative practices to eliminate equity gaps through coordinated institutional approaches that include flexible financial aid, just-in-time academic advising and summer transition programs.

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11:15 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

### CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS CONTINUED

#### ***Reintegration Into the Workforce: Bringing Workers off the Sidelines*** **Parliament II**

**Presenters:** **Nancy Wiley**, Federal Grant Manager, MOSTART Program, State Technical College of Missouri; and **Shelle Jacobs**, Reentry Coordinator, Missouri Department of Corrections

**Moderator:** **Brian Crouse**, Vice President of Education Programs, Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Giving ex-offenders a second chance through quality job opportunities is not just a good thing to do—it makes good business sense. In this session, hear how Missouri's reentry unit and their partners are preparing offenders for life after prison by utilizing in-demand training programs that will skill up justice-involved individuals and provide employers with a talented pipeline of workers who are often overlooked.

#### ***Paving the Way to Rural Postsecondary Access & Success*** **Parliament III**

**Presenters:**

**Rebecca Merlenbach**, College Access Advisor, The Ayers Foundation, Union High; **Dr. Tracy McGrady**, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Ozarks Technical Community College; **Jerron Johnson**, Director, Missouri College Advising Corps; and a student representative

**Moderator:** **Lisa MacDougall**, Principal, Philanthropy and Social Impact, BDT & Company

What is the state of postsecondary access and success for Missouri's rural students, and why does it matter? With rootEd Alliance as a collaborative case study, this session will explore the importance of improving outcomes for rural students and how to bridge the gaps across high schools and postsecondary institutions so that all rural students know that college is possible and can achieve their goals.

12:15 P.M. - 1:45 P.M.

### LUNCH AND HACK-A-THON PANEL REPORT

#### **Windsor III & IV**

**Moderator:** **Alan Byrd**, Vice President of Enrollment Management, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Representatives from Tuesday's hack-a-thon sessions will give brief summaries of the topics they discussed and the solutions they developed.

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2:00 P.M. - 2:50 P.M.

### CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

***Using High Impact Practices and Practical Steps to Improve Retention and Graduation Rates for Underrepresented/Marginalized Students***

#### **Polo Room**

**Presenters:** **Donell Young**, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement & Success, University of Missouri; **Trent Ball**, Assistant Vice President for Academic Diversity and Outreach, Southeast Missouri State University; and **Amy Gossett**, Director of the Honors Program, Lincoln University

**Moderator:** **Erik Anderson**, Director of Innovation and Performance, Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

This presentation examines Lincoln University, Southeast Missouri State, and the University of Missouri's efforts to improve first year retention and graduation rates for underrepresented/marginalized students. Each university will discuss and share practical steps, data driven program ideas, strategies, and provide best practices that support student success for underrepresented/marginalized students.

***Inclusive Postsecondary Education for Students with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities***

#### **Parliament II**

**Presenters:** **Jonathan Lidgus**, Director of SUCCEED, University of Missouri-St. Louis, **Rachel Heinz**, Director of Bear POWER, Missouri State University, **April Regester**, Associate Professor, University of Missouri-St. Louis, and **Michael Brunkhorst**, Director of Thrive, University of Central Missouri

**Moderator:** **Francine Pratt**, Director, Prosper Springfield

This session will provide an introduction to Inclusive Postsecondary Education and Comprehensive Transition Programs and an overview of the four current programs in the State of Missouri: UMSL Succeed Program, MSU Bear POWER, UCM Thrive, and UMKC Propel.

***Barriers to Access for Immigrant Students***

#### **Parliament III**

**Presenters:** **Jessica Piedra**, Kansas City Metro Immigration Alliance and **Maria Franco**, University of Missouri-Kansas City Student

**Moderator:** **Samantha Dickey**, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Immigrant youth face many barriers to accessing higher education in Missouri. Learn what federal and state laws apply to undocumented, DACA, and other students. Discuss what solutions/opportunities exist now and what we can do to open doors for these students.

3:00 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.

### CLOSING AND NEXT STEPS

#### **Windsor IV**

**Angelette Prichett**, Director of Academic Affairs, Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

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# SUMMIT SPEAKERS

## ZORA MULLIGAN

**Commissioner, Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development**

Zora Mulligan has served as Missouri's Commissioner of Higher Education since August 2016. During her time as commissioner, Mulligan and her team have partnered with colleges and universities around the state to substantially improve transfer for Missouri students, increase graduation rates by offering alternatives to remedial coursework, and implement new rules that give public colleges and universities greater ability to meet statewide and regional workforce needs.

In 2018, Mulligan and Missouri's Director of Economic Development co-led Talent for Tomorrow, an initiative that built a statewide coalition of corporate executives, educators, community leaders, legislators, and members of the executive branch to develop and advocate for a comprehensive suite of proposals to address workforce needs. Those proposals, which included restructuring state government to bring the agencies responsible for postsecondary education, workforce development, and economic research together; funding for public colleges and universities to develop or expand academic programs that lead to jobs in high-demand occupations; and a full-tuition grant program for adults, were featured in Governor Mike Parson's 2019 State of the State address and adopted by the General Assembly during the 2019 legislative session.

## ERIK ANDERSON

**Director of Innovation and Performance, Office of Postsecondary Policy, Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development**

Erik Anderson is the Director of Innovation and Performance with the Office of Postsecondary Policy for the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development, where he facilitates work on the Missouri Math Pathways Initiative and remedial education, including co-requisite models of remediation. A Missouri native, Anderson earned his undergraduate degree in Anthropology from Brigham Young University and his Master's in Anthropology and Education from Columbia University. Before joining the MDHEWD in 2014, he taught middle school in rural Mississippi with Teach for America and worked for the Office of Disability Services at Columbia University.

## ALAN BYRD

**Vice Provost of Enrollment Management, University of Missouri-St. Louis**

Alan Byrd is Vice Provost of Enrollment Management at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) and Co-Chair of St. Louis Graduates. At UMSL, Byrd is responsible for providing leadership, direction, and planning for all undergraduate recruitment initiatives at the university. Byrd began his career in college admissions as an admissions counselor at Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO). For eight years, Byrd served in the recruitment program at SEMO in a variety of positions including the Director of Minority Recruitment and the Associate Director of Enrollment Management.

## DR. WIL DEL PILAR

**Vice President of Higher Education Policy and Practice, The Education Trust**

Wil Del Pilar is the Vice President of Higher Education Policy and Practice at the Education Trust where he works to advance Ed Trust's higher education advocacy agenda by developing and implementing strategies to leverage research, policy, and practice to improve access, affordability, completion, and post-enrollment success for low-income students and students of color.

Del Pilar has experience at both the state and institutional levels. Most recently, he served as deputy secretary of postsecondary and higher education for the Pennsylvania Department of Education, where he implemented the strategic vision for higher education in the commonwealth. Prior to that, he led development activities at the University of Florida and Pennsylvania State University. Del Pilar has also served in admissions roles at Chapman University in Orange, California, and the University of California Santa Cruz, as a financial aid counselor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, and as a research assistant at The Pennsylvania State University.

Del Pilar's work in higher education has shaped his research interest which focuses on postsecondary access, retention and policy. Specifically his interest centers upon the intersection between policy, social capital and school factors on the postsecondary enrollment of student populations.

## ANGELETTE L. PRICHETT

**Director of Academic Affairs, Office of Postsecondary Policy, Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development**

Angelette Prichett is the Director of Academic Affairs within the Office of Postsecondary Policy for the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development. She serves as the director of the state's general education, dual credit, equity, transfer, and assessment initiatives. Angelette also directs Missouri's Academic Program Review, the state's process for review, approval and evaluation of new and existing academic programs at Missouri's colleges and universities.

Prichett has administrative experience in strategic planning, program administration, program development, and grant management and has served as an instructor in social work and human services for a number of years. Prior to moving into higher education, Prichett was a medical social worker in the hospital, home health, and hospice settings, providing discharge planning, end-of-life family planning, trauma and grief counseling.

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